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macrolides (mak'ro-lidz)

A class of antibiotics discovered in streptomycetes, characterized by molecules made up of large-ring lactones; e.g., erythromycin; many inhibit protein biosynthesis.

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retinopathy (ret-i-nop'a-the)

Noninflammatory degenerative disease of the retina. [retino- + G. *pathos*, 1 suffering] **arteriosclerotic r. r.** distinguished by attenuated retinal arterioles with increased tortuosity, copper- or silver-wire appearance, perivascular sheathing, irregularity of lumen and scattered small hemorrhages, and small, sharp-edged deposits without surrounding edema. **central angiospastic r.** SYN: central serous choroidopathy. **central serous r.** SYN: central serous choroidopathy. **circinate r.** a retinal degeneration marked by a girdle of sharply defined white exudates around an edematous macula; usually bilateral and typically affects the aged. **compression r. 1.** See Berlin edema. See traumatic r. **diabetic r.** retinal changes occurring in diabetes mellitus, marked by microaneurysms, exudates, and hemorrhages, and sometimes by neovascularization. SYN: fundus diabeticus. Diabetic eye disease is responsible for approximately 25% of all newly reported cases of blindness in the U.S. The principal form is nonproliferative retinopathy, which results directly from degenerative changes in retinal capillaries. Features of this disorder, as observed on fundusoscopic examination, include microaneurysms; soft or cotton-wool exudates, which are actually areas of microinfarction; hard or waxy exudates, which are deposits of lipid and protein from leaking capillaries; and flame hemorrhages. A few patients, principally those with type 1 diabetes, develop a proliferative retinopathy characterized by neovascularization (proliferation of new capillary loops on the retinal surface). Either type of retinopathy can impair vision by destroying retinal tissue directly and by predisposing to retinal edema, retinal detachment, and vitreous hemorrhage. Controlled clinical studies have shown that maintaining blood glucose levels as near as possible to normal at all times in persons with diabetes mellitus substantially retards the onset and rate of

progression of retinopathy. Laser photocoagulation is effective in arresting neovascularization in proliferative diabetic retinopathy. **dysproteinemic r.** retinal venous congestion due to increased blood viscosity in dysproteinemia. **electric r.** SYN: photoretinopathy. **external exudative r.** See exudative retinitis. **hypertensive r.** a retinal condition occurring in accelerated vascular hypertension, marked by arteriolar constriction, flame-shaped hemorrhages, cotton-wool patches, star-figure edema at the macula, and papilledema. **Leber idiopathic stellate r.** See neuroretinitis. **leukemic r.** appearance of the retina in all types of leukemia, characterized by engorgement and tortuosity of veins, scattered hemorrhages, and edema of the retina and disk. **lipemic r.** a milkiness of the retinal vessels (lipemia retinalis) combined with hard-edged fatty exudates, seen in patients with diabetic acidosis and hyperlipemia. **macular r.** SYN: maculopathy. **pigmentary r.** SYN: retinitis pigmentosa. **r. of prematurity** abnormal replacement of the sensory retina by fibrous tissue and blood vessels, occurring mainly in premature infants having a birth weight of less than 1500 g who are placed in a high-oxygen environment. SYN: retinopapillitis of premature infants, retrolental fibroplasia, Terry syndrome. **proliferative r.** neovascularization of the retina extending into the vitreous humor. SYN: retinitis proliferans. **r.** **punctata albescens [MIM*136880]** a disease in which both fundi show numerous white dots or flecks through the retinae, causing night blindness; autosomal dominant inheritance, caused by mutation in the “retinal degeneration, slow” gene (RDS) encoding peripherin on chromosome 6p. There is also a recessive form [MIM*210370]. **Purtscher r.** transient traumatic retinal angiopathy due to a sudden rise in venous pressure, as in compression of the body from seat belt injury; ocular fundi show large white patches associated with the retinal veins about the disk or macula, hemorrhages, and retinal edema; thought to be due to fat embolism from bone marrow. SYN: Purtscher disease, transient r., traumatic r.. **renal r.** hypertensive r. associated with chronic glomerulonephritis or nephrosclerosis. **rubella r.** peripheral pigmentary retinal changes in congenital rubella, not affecting visual function. **sickle cell r.** a condition marked by dilation and tortuosity of retinal veins and by microaneurysms and retinal hemorrhages; advanced stages may show

neovascularization, vitreous hemorrhage, or retinal detachment. **solar r.** SYN: photoretinopathy.
toxemic r. of pregnancy sudden angiospasm of retinal arterioles, later followed by retinal vascular signs of advanced hypertensive r. vascular changes disappear rapidly after termination of the pregnancy.
toxic r. retinal changes due to prolonged administration of various drugs. **transient r.** SYN: Purtscher r.. **traumatic r.** SYN: Purtscher r..
venous-stasis r. a uniocular retinopathy associated with occlusion of the central retinal vein; a nonischemic central retinal vein occlusion.
whiplash r. an injury to the retina caused by a sudden acceleration/deceleration injury.

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uveitis, pl .uveitides (u-ve-i'tis, -it'i-dez)

Inflammation of the uveal tract: iris, ciliary body, and choroid. [uvea + G. -itis, 1 inflammation]
anterior uveitis inflammation involving the ciliary body and iris. **Förster uveitis** syphilitic inflammation, with diffuse nodules involving the choroid and retinal vasculitis. **Fuchs uveitis** SYN: heterochromic uveitis. **heterochromic uveitis** anterior uveitis and depigmentation of the iris. SYN: Fuchs uveitis. **intermediate uveitis** a u. that is neither anterior nor posterior but tends to involve the pars plana and the ciliary body. **lens-induced uveitis** SYN: phacoanaphylactic uveitis. **phacoanaphylactic uveitis** intraocular inflammation occurring after extracapsular cataract extraction; probably an immune reaction to the patient's liberated lenticular proteins. SYN: lens-induced uveitis. **phacogenic uveitis** u. secondary to hypermature cataract. **posterior uveitis** SYN: choroiditis. **sympathetic uveitis** a bilateral inflammation of the uveal tract caused by a perforating wound of one eye that injures the uvea.

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retin pathy f prematurity

<ophthalmology, paediatrics> A bilateral retinopathy occurring in premature infants treated with excessively high concentrations of oxygen, characterised by vascular dilatation, proliferation, and tortuosity, oedema, and retinal detachment, with ultimate conversion of the retina into a fibrous mass that can be seen as a dense retrolental membrane.

Usually growth of the eye is arrested and may result in microphthalmia, and blindness may occur.

(03 Jul 1999)

Previous: retinopapillitis, retinopapillitis of premature infants, retinopathy

Next: retinopathy punctata albescens, retinopexy, retinophora, retinophoral

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